

The Evening Star

No. 14,088. WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1898—TWELVE PAGES. TWO CENTS.

SPANISH SHIPS HERE

Merchantmen Given Until May 21 to Depart.

SUCH VESSELS NOT TO BE MOLESTED

Neutral Flag Covers Enemy's Goods Not Contraband.

ANOTHER PROCLAMATION

The State Department has given notice to all nations and powers of the declaration of war made yesterday against Spain.

Rear Admiral Erben, retired, was put in command of the mosquito fleet.

Both houses of Congress agreed to the conference report on the army reorganization bill.

Chairman Dingley reported the war revenue bill to the House and gave notice that the bill would be called up tomorrow, general debate to continue until Thursday, the bill to be considered Friday for amendment under the five-minute rule until 4 o'clock, when a vote should be taken.

The State Department has sent all foreign nations notice of Congress' declaration that war has existed since April 21. This was done to save our rights.

Most governors have made prompt and gratifying responses to the call for volunteers.

Secretary Long authorized an emphatic denial of reports current that advices had been received that Morro Castle had fired on the fleet, and that it had replied.

The President nominated Wm. R. Day to be Secretary of State and John B. Moore to be assistant secretary. Secretary Day was confirmed.

Details were received of Lieut. Fremont's landing in Cuba.

Rear Admiral Walker will be succeeded on the naval strategic board by Capt. A. T. Mahan.

The Mangrove captured the big Spanish liner Panama about twenty miles out of Havana this morning and the gunboat Newport caught two small coasters.

The President issued a proclamation defining the attitude of the government over Spanish ships in United States ports.

The President today issued the following proclamation respecting the rights of Spanish vessels now in or bound to United States ports and also with regard to the right of search:

By the President of the United States of America.

A proclamation.

Whereas, by an act of Congress approved April 25, 1898, it is declared that war exists and that war has existed since the 21st day of April, A. D. 1898, including said day, between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain, and

Whereas, it being desirable that such war should be conducted upon and in harmony with the present views of nations and sanctioned by recent practice, it has already been announced that the policy of this government will not be to resort to privateering, but to adhere to the rules of the declaration of Paris;

Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power vested in me by the action and the laws, do hereby declare and proclaim:

First. The neutral flag covers enemy's goods with the exception of contraband of war.

Second. Neutral goods not contraband of war are not liable to confiscation under the enemy's flag.

Third. Blockades in order to be binding must be effective.

Fourth. Spanish merchant vessels in any ports or places within the United States shall be allowed until May 21, 1898, inclusive, for loading their cargoes and departing from such ports or places; and such Spanish merchant vessels if met at sea by any United States ships shall be permitted to continue their voyage, if, on examination of their papers, it shall appear that their cargoes were taken on board before the expiration of the above term, provided, that nothing herein contained shall apply to Spanish vessels having on board any officers in the military or naval service of the enemy, or any coal (except such as may be necessary for their voyage) or any other articles prohibited or contraband of war, or any dispatch of or to the Spanish government.

Fifth. Any Spanish merchant vessel which prior to April 21, 1898, shall have sailed from any foreign port bound for any port or place in the United States shall be permitted to enter such port or place, and to discharge her cargo and afterward forthwith to depart without molestation; and any such vessel if met at sea by any United States ship shall be permitted to continue her voyage to any port not blockaded.

Sixth. The right of search is to be exercised with strict regard for the rights of neutrals, and the voyages of mail steamers are not to be interfered with except on the clearest grounds of suspicion of a violation of law in respect of contraband or blockade.

(Signed.) WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

In witness whereof, etc., done at the Department of State, etc., this 26th day of April, etc.

The President's Visitors.

President McKinley had many visitors this morning before the time for the cabinet meeting. Nearly all of them are in-

INTERESTED IN SECURING PLACES OR PROMOTIONS

in the army or navy for constituents.

Senators Quay, Penrose, Pritchard, Lindsay, Cook, Fairbank, Spooner, Representatives Jenkins and Grosvenor, Lieutenant General Schofield, and ex-Governor Oates of Alabama, were among the callers.

Prof. Moore, the new first assistant secretary of state, called as the cabinet was assembling. He had a long talk with the President. There is much satisfaction at his selection.

Wayne MacVeagh, ex-ambassador to Italy, was a visitor. He has been at the White House frequently since the beginning of the trouble with Spain.

Ex-Secretary John W. Foster was with the President a short time.

The visit of ex-Governor Oates was to urge the appointment of General Wheeler of Alabama as a major general of volunteers. This appointment is being urged from all parts of the country. Senator Davis of Minnesota has endorsed the suggestion, saying that he knows of General Wheeler's ability, having been chased over several southern states during the war, by the noted Alabamian.

Discussing Coast Defenses.

General John M. Wilson, chief of engineers of the United States army, went to the White House this morning with a number of important maps and papers in his possession. He was present during a greater part of the cabinet session and was undoubtedly consulted regarding the coast defenses throughout the country. It is generally believed that his presence at the White House was exceedingly significant.

The cabinet telegraph instrument at the White House never ceases now and makes merry music when everything is still. Hundreds of messages go across the White House wires daily. All the newspaper dispatches are sent to the President, in addition to the numerous official dispatches.

The Cabinet Meeting.

The two hours' session of the cabinet today did not reach any agreement changing in any way the movements of the army and navy heretofore agreed upon. Everything is said to be proceeding to the satisfaction of the President and cabinet.

The cabinet discussed numerous matters in connection with the pending situation. Secretary Sherman was present for the last time. His resignation was accepted at the close of the meeting, and the venerable and much-loved statesman bade good-bye to the President and his fellow-officials.

The farewell was affecting and historical. As he was leaving the White House he carried with him a number of requests for his autograph.

The Buena Ventura's Case.

The seizure of Spanish ships by the Key West fleet was informally discussed by the cabinet. It is said that there is not unanimity among the administration officials as to the case of the Buena Ventura, but it is felt that no orders can be given from here regarding that ship or any of the other vessels which were captured.

The prize court will settle all these cases, and the government here will have to abide by the decision of the court. Attorney General Griggs will represent both the government and the captors through the district attorney of the southern district of Florida, who is now engaged in the preparation of the papers.

Report of Engagement Denied.

Cabinet officials denied the rumors of an engagement between the fleet and the batteries of Morro Castle. No news intimating this was received during the day by Secretary Long, who reported that everything stands as ordered several days ago.

It was authoritatively stated that the government has received no official news of the sailing of the Spanish fleet from Cape Verde Islands. It is said that the government is keeping a close eye on this fleet.

The run of the Minneapolis and Columbia to the New England coast is declared to have had no particular purpose in view, except to give the people along the coast an idea of how quickly they can be protected in case of the approach of the enemy. The quick run of the two splendid cruisers was gratifying to the officials.

The report that the Spanish fleet is heading this way gave no alarm to the President and cabinet, who feel sure that the coast is well protected at every point by fortifications and mines. General John M. Wilson, chief of engineers, increased this assurance today by showing the assembled cabinet officials just how everything stands.

War Revenue.

There was some discussion as to the question of war revenue measures, but it was purely informal, pending action by Congress. Secretary Gage, who always keeps the cabinet posted as to financial affairs, is in New York, and was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Day will take his seat at the cabinet table Friday, if he is not detained at Canton. He has been present at nearly every cabinet session for weeks, but did not participate in the deliberations except to inform the president of affairs, when called upon to do so and to order the carrying out of such matters as were agreed upon.

SPAIN WILL PLAY BADGER.

To Wait for an Aggressive Warfare From Us.

MADRID, April 26.—The general public here is in complete ignorance regarding the Spanish war movements. The newspapers make no mention of them, while fully recording the tactics of the United States fleet.

Judging from the available advices, Spain appears to have the tactics of the badger. The Liberal says: "We are inside our house, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands, and inside we will remain until you come and drive us out in fulfillment of your arrogant boast."

It is generally believed that in consequence with this policy the Spanish fleet, unless compelled to fight, will avoid engagements and the fastest ships will be employed to destroy the commerce of the United States.

The newspapers today reflect general satisfaction at the unanimity of the support given the government in the cortes yesterday.

A bill to indemnify the government for granting autonomy to Cuba, which was not authorized by the cortes, is expected to pass by acclamation today, unless the Radicalists, who are hostile to autonomy, oppose the measure.

Mrs. McKinley's Return.

Mrs. McKinley returned from New York at 8 o'clock this morning, accompanied by Mrs. Barber and Miss Barber, her Canton, Ohio, guests. The President was up early to greet them, but did not go to the station.

Mr. Webb C. Hayes met them instead, praising the President and Mrs. McKinley. Mrs. Hayes, Gen. Hastings, the President's old war colonel, Mrs. Barber and Miss Barber. They were later joined by Mr. Abner McAnisley, the President's brother.

THREE MORE PRIZES

Blockading Fleet Continues to Prey on Spain's Commerce.

BIG LINER PANAMA CAPTURED

Mangrove, With Two Six-Pounders, Gets the Big Prize.

NEWPORT GETS OTHER TWO

KEY WEST, Fla., April 26.—The big Spanish steamship Panama of the Ceballos line, which left New York April 20, for Havana, with a number of Spanish refugees on board and a very valuable cargo, including, it is understood, stores for the Spanish army, was captured last evening about twenty miles from Havana, by the little lightship tender Mangrove, now belonging to the Mosquito fleet. The Mangrove mounts two six-pounders and four .38 revolvers. She is commanded by Lieut. Commander Everett and has a crew of thirteen men.

The Panama is of about 2,800 tons, and a very rich prize.

The United States gunboat Newport, Capt. B. F. Tilley, has brought in the Spanish sloop Paquete and the Spanish schooner Pireto, Cuban coasting vessels, which she captured off Havana this morning.

When the Mangrove sighted the Panama she ran up to her and fired a gun across her bows. The liner did not take the hint and a second shot was fired, after which the Panama slowed down a little. A third shot was fired across the bows of the Panama, at a hundred yards, and the deck officer of the Spanish vessel was halted and notified that if he did not "heave to" a shot would be sent through his vessel. This notification caused the Panama to be brought to.

Ensign Dayton then boarded the Spanish steamer and took possession of her.

The battle ship Indiana then steamed up and Commander Everett notified Captain Taylor of the Indiana that he had captured the Panama and borrowed a prize crew from the battle ship, consisting of cadet Falconer and fifteen marines. The Mangrove was then ordered to report to the flagship and Rear Admiral Sampson told Commander Everett to take his prize into Key West.

The Panama is understood to have thirty-nine passengers on board. As she rounded to after the little Mangrove overhauled her, Commander Everett knowing the Panama was an auxiliary cruiser, expected to be fired upon. It is not yet known whether the Panama had guns on board.

Carrying the War Into Africa?

MIDDLEBORO, Ky., April 26.—Two Spaniards with tame bears were run out of Jonesville, Va. One was seriously hurt, but they escaped.

Value of the Panama.

NEW YORK, April 26.—It was stated at the office of the Spanish transatlantic line, which owns the Panama, that that vessel was valued at \$200,000 and her cargo at \$75,000.

CARLOS V IN PARIS' PATH.

Spanish Cruiser Has Been Sighted by the Pennland.

QUEENSTOWN, April 26.—The Red Star Line steamer Pennland, Captain Albrecht, which left Philadelphia on April 16, has arrived here, and reports that she has not sighted the American liner Paris, chartered by the United States government, which the Spaniards are said to be trying to capture, but last Sunday the Pennland sighted the Spanish warship Don Carlos (possibly the Carlos V), which was steaming rapidly at the time.

The Carlos V, a first-class armored cruiser, left Havre for Ferrol, it was said at the time, on April 3.

TO MUSTER IN TROOPS.

Colonel Heyl to Receive the District Battalion.

Col. C. H. Heyl, adjutant general of the District militia, was today assigned to the duty of mustering into the United States service the battalion of infantry to be recruited in the District for service in the volunteer army of the United States, under the President's call for 125,000 men.

TAKEN TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

Agreement on the Army Reorganization Bill.

The conferees of the two Houses reached an agreement this morning on the army reorganization bill. The House conferees agreed to the Senate amendment requiring that the quotas of militia of the various states and territories shall be in companies, troops and batteries in order to be accepted by the President, and also the Senate amendment increasing the Signal Corps to the extent of ten corporals and 140 privates.

The conference refused to accept the amendment authorizing the active employment of retired army officers in time of war, and it was therefore eliminated from the bill.

Both houses agreed to the report and the bill left the Capitol at 2:05 o'clock for the President's signature.

FIRST CHEERS, THEN CURSES.

Ward Line Steamer Has Exciting Experience in Havana.

NEW YORK, April 26.—The Ward line steamer Saratoga, Captain Johnson, arrived today from Havana with 211 passengers and a full cargo of cigars, sugar, etc., and about one million dollars in specie. The Saratoga sailed from New York April 14 with a cargo of supplies for Havana, where she arrived April 18, and was received by the people with cheers. The fort at Morro hoisted the American Jack and great rejoicing prevailed.

The people ran wild about the streets, and troops were seen marching and countermarching on all sides. When the steamer had discharged her cargo the agents were overwhelmed with applications for passage, and the ship's steward was obliged to go ashore and purchase supplies for the 211 passengers who embarked. The Saratoga sailed about 5:30 a.m., April 22. This time the sentiment of the people was displayed in a different manner.

They lined the shores of the narrow channel in dense crowds, jeering and hooting at the steamer and her passengers. While passing down the channel three guns were fired from each side of the entrance and a red flag was hoisted on Morro Castle.

BLANCO IS DEFIANT

Says He Can Defend Havana Without Fleet's Help.

Answer to a Spanish Admiral—Polo May Quit Canada.

MADRID, April 25 (delayed in transmission).—The Spanish admiral in command of the fleet at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, has cabled to the government here that when the United States fleet is before Havana his place is not at the Cape Verde Islands, adding that he would sail against the American squadron in the morning, orders or no orders.

Blanco Does Not Want Them.

HAVANA (via London), April 25.—Captain General Blanco has cabled the government at Madrid to the effect that the Spanish squadron of warships may be utilized elsewhere as he can account for the defense of Havana without the assistance of the fleet.

Why is Polo in Canada?

LONDON, April 26.—In the house of commons today Mr. James F. Hagan, anti-Parnellite, member for the middle division of Tipperary, will ask the government leader, Mr. A. J. Balfour, first lord of the treasury and secretary of state for foreign affairs, whether Senor Polo y Bernabe, the former Spanish minister at Washington, who is now in Canada, is at liberty to use Toronto as a base for supplying Spain with information, and whether there is any foundation for the suggestion that Senor Polo is accredited to the whole of America north of the equator, and that he has thereby acquired a definite status in Canada, and generally to "indicate the means imposed by precedent and diplomatic usage on the activities of an ex-minister of a belligerent power who keeps up a temporary residence in a British colony."

PROSPECT OF BOND ISSUE.

Republicans Confident of the Senate Favoring It.

At the meeting of the ways and means committee today, Mr. Bailey, on behalf of the democratic minority, offered the substitute agreed upon by them for the proposition in the bill authorizing the issue of \$500,000,000 coin bonds. It provides for an income tax of 3 per cent on incomes from all sources in excess of \$1,000. State, county and municipal bonds, however, were excepted from its provisions to meet the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court in this respect. The minority estimated that such an income tax would raise \$100,000,000. Coupled with it was the proposition to coin the silver substandard, which at present amounts to \$12,500,000.

The substitute was voted down by a strict party vote. No amendments were offered to other provisions of the bill, owing to the lack of time.

No doubt is expressed among republicans of the Senate finance committee as to passing the war measure with the bond proposition in it. Nearly all republican members of the Senate are said to favor it, and from six to ten on the democratic side are expected to vote with them.

There is quite an interesting contest among democrats of the Senate for the place on the finance committee made vacant by the death of Senator Walthall. Senator Gorman of Maryland has been favorably considered, but the ardent silver men want a pronouncement silver man for the place. The fact that in the immediate future the committee will be compelled to act upon the bond proposition in the tariff bill is being considered in connection with the filling of the vacancy.

The names of Senators Bacon of Georgia and Child of Texas are also mentioned in connection with the vacancy.

NOW SECRETARY DAY.

Nomination Sent to the Senate and Confirmed.

The President today nominated William R. Day of Ohio to be Secretary of State, vice John Sherman, resigned, and John B. Moore of New York to be assistant secretary of state, vice William R. Day.

The Senate committee on foreign relations agreed unanimously to a favorable report on the nomination of Secretary Day. The Senate later confirmed the nomination, and the nomination of Mr. Moore was referred to the committee.

Judge Day's nomination was favorably reported from the committee on foreign relations without the formality of a meeting, the members expressing their concurrence through a poll made on the floor of the Senate by Senator Davis. When the executive session called, Mr. Davis reported the action of the committee, and the nomination was taken up and confirmed without comment or delay. Senator White suggested the propriety of similar action in the case of Prof. Moore, nominated for assistant secretary, but Senator Davis said the committee preferred to have his nomination referred to it. The reference was accordingly made.

Spy at Fort Hancock.

NEW YORK, April 26.—It is reported that a man in an army uniform was arrested at Fort Hancock and imprisoned at Governor's Island today as a spy.

France to Proclaim Neutrality.

PARIS, April 26.—At the cabinet council here today, the minister of foreign affairs, M. Hanotaux, informed his colleagues of the neutrality instructions issued, and the council approved of a program of neutrality which is about to be published by the French government and which is identical with the program issued at the time of the Russo-Turkish war.

Minneapolis Disappears Again.

BOSTON, April 26.—The cruiser Minneapolis, which left the flying squadron at Hampton Roads last Sunday night and passed in by Highland light at 6:45 p.m. yesterday, was nowhere to be seen in the bay this morning, and incoming steamers reported the blockade now established in Cuba, if the entire Spanish fleet were being engaged by our fleet, so that they could not attack the blockade. The interpretation put upon the movements of the Minneapolis and Columbia in our northern waters is that they are on the lookout for the Cadiz fleet, should it proceed at once to American waters without forming a junction with the fleet from St. Vincent. It is thought that this course has been followed by the Spanish, Schley's fleet from Hampton Roads would be amply able to cope with them without any assistance from Sampson's fleet, which would remain to maintain the blockade of Cuba and to meet the Spanish fleet from St. Vincent should that be sent to the relief of Blanco.

WAR CHART SUPPLEMENT.

On Thursday, the 28th, a handsomely colored chart of the scene of the present naval operations will be issued as a supplement to The Star. This chart will be so arranged that the location of the various naval vessels can be readily indicated from day to day and will be of permanent value. No additional charge will be made for The Star containing this supplement.

A DARING EXPLOIT

Lieut. Fremont's Landing of Marines in Cuba.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION GAINED

Uncertainty as to the Course of the Spanish Navy.

OUR SHIPS ON LOOKOUT

The details of Lieut. Fremont's daring exploit with the torpedo boat Porter have been received by an official who visited the White House today. The story printed in the morning's papers was censored by the government's agents at Key West, and all the facts did not come out. Lieut. Fremont ran his boat in under the guns of the Matanzas batteries and landed a company of marines in Cuba. The pilot who guided the Porter was the same man who succeeded in landing so many filibuster expeditions in Cuba. The point selected for the landing was the same one at which the War Department intends to land its first force of 5,000 infantry, cavalry and artillery. The pilot, on reaching shore, was entrusted with dispatches to deliver to Gen. Gomez acquainting him with the plans of the approaching expedition and directing him to hold his forces in readiness to cooperate with those of the United States. Capt. Sampson has characterized the expedition of Lieut. Fremont as "a daring exploit."

News at the Department.

The Navy Department also, it is understood, has received dispatches relating to the landing of Lieutenant Fremont from the torpedo boat Porter for a short time in Cuba with relation to the landing of munitions of war and supplies for the establishment of the base of supplies. It is known that the information secured by Lieutenant Fremont is of great importance, and whether it shows the plans for a junction with Gomez' army have been successfully managed or not is not disclosed. It is believed, however, that the information was satisfactory. It is problematical as to how many troops Gomez can assemble, and upon that depends largely the immediate operations in Cuba. It is not the intention of the President to begin a formidable invasion of Cuba until after there has been a test of strength between the American and the Spanish fleets, or until it has been established that Spain does not intend to send her fleet to American waters.

Plan Unchanged.

It is believed that the information secured by Lieutenant Fremont was not of a character to change in any way the plan of landing five thousand troops somewhere on the coast of Cuba to establish a base of supplies. On the contrary, it is supposed that a thorough understanding has been arrived at with the commander of the Cuban forces with respect to the establishment of the Cuban army. The American troops landed in Cuba will not be there for any aggressive movement, but will be strong enough to maintain themselves in the position which they will occupy. The authorities on which the administration relies chiefly for advice with respect to operations on the island regard a force of five thousand men as ample for this purpose, and this force will carry munitions of war and provisions for a large army, so that if Gomez' army should fail to make a junction with them and Sampson's fleet should be called away from blockade duty to meet the Spanish fleet on the high seas the force would be strong enough to defend itself against attack, and would be so well provisioned as not to suffer from being cut off from communication, even for a long time. If the plans work out satisfactorily Gomez can provide a sufficient force the Cuban army will be well supplied and equipped with such aggressive movements as may be deemed advisable for them to make.

Objections to a Large Invasion Force.

There are some authorities here who urge very strongly the immediate invasion of Cuba by a large force, but serious objections are raised to this, and it is not contemplated in the present plans. The plan of invasion, in fact, has not yet been definitely decided upon, and the President is still in consultation with the Secretary of War, Gen. Miles and Gen. Schouliot on the subject. The reason that the President and Secretary of War do not intend an invasion at this time by a large army, in addition to the danger from disease, is that if the two Spanish fleets, that at St. Vincent, Cape Verde, and the Cadiz fleet, should join and proceed at once to attack any of our ports or to give battle to our fleets, it might result in cutting our army in Cuba off from communication for a time and subjecting to practically a blockade in Cuba, such as Havana is now undergoing. If by any mischance our fleet should suffer reverses, a large army in Cuba would be placed at great disadvantages. It is regarded as desirable, therefore, that military operations in Cuba should be confined chiefly to Gomez's expeditions to our northern coast.

Uncertainty of Spanish Navy.

The department here, it is said, is left largely to surmise for a conclusion as to the course which will be pursued by the Spanish navy. It is regarded as definitely settled that the Spanish fleet at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, will not remain there, and that the Cadiz fleet is on its way either to form a junction with the St. Vincent fleet at the Canaries or on an independent expedition to our northern coast.

Our own vessels have been so distributed as to meet either of these movements. If the two Spanish fleets are joined in an aggressive movement they can be met, it is said, by the Hampton Roads fleet and a large part of Sampson's fleet at any point toward which their movements are directed. A small part of Sampson's fleet could maintain the blockade now established in Cuba, if the entire Spanish fleet were being engaged by our fleet, so that they could not attack the blockade. The interpretation put upon the movements of the Minneapolis and Columbia in our northern waters is that they are on the lookout for the Cadiz fleet, should it proceed at once to American waters without forming a junction with the fleet from St. Vincent. It is thought that this course has been followed by the Spanish, Schley's fleet from Hampton Roads would be amply able to cope with them without any assistance from Sampson's fleet, which would remain to maintain the blockade of Cuba and to meet the Spanish fleet from St. Vincent should that be sent to the relief of Blanco.

PROMPT RESPONSES

Gratifying Reports From the Governors of States.

PENNSYLVANIANS EQUIPPED FOR DUTY

Dispatch Received From Governor Hastings.

WAR DEPARTMENT NOTES

Prompt and gratifying has been the response of the governors of the states and territories to the telegrams of the Secretary of War notifying them of the number of men they will be expected to furnish under the President's proclamation, and asking them when such troops will be ready for muster into the United States army. Messrs. Alger's dispatch and their answers generally are very satisfactory, indicating the time when the state troops will be ready for muster into service of the United States government.

Hardly had the last telegram to the governors been sent last night before a dispatch came from Governor Hastings of Pennsylvania, which said that the men called for were ready and equipped for duty. He was the first of the governors to respond, but the others came in quick succession during the night and this morning. The officials in Adj. Gen. Corbin's office, under whose direction the arrangement of all the details incidental to the raising of the volunteer army come, were very busy all the morning. In addition to the many telegrams of a large number of congressmen and others were received and making inquiries and suggestions bearing on the allotment of the various states.

An Identical Note.

Secretary Alger has followed up his telegrams of notification to the governors of the states sent yesterday with letters giving more detailed information respecting the troops that are to be raised. The Secretary reiterates the sentiments heretofore expressed that as far as practicable the National Guard should be given preference in the recruiting of regiments, battalions, etc. The Secretary's letter to the governors, which, except in stating the number of volunteers wanted from the states and the place of rendezvous, is identical in each case, is as follows:

"To the Governor—

"Sir—Under the act of Congress to provide for temporarily increasing the military establishment of the United States in time of war, and for other purposes, approved April 22, 1898, and calling for 125,000 volunteers, by direction of the President I have the honor to request from your state a quota of volunteers as follows:

To serve in the line of service designated for a period of two years, unless sooner discharged. Attached will be found a statement showing the organization for artillery, cavalry and infantry.

"Please cause the adjutant general of the army to be informed of the time your quota will be at its rendezvous, as it will be met as soon as practicable thereafter by an officer to muster it into the service and pay of the United States. The mustering officer will be instructed to receive no man, under the rank of forty-five or under, who is in years over forty-five or under, or who is not in physical strength and vigor. As soon as mustered into the United States service it is the intention that troops from your state shall be assembled with others for instruction and service under the direction of the major general commanding of the army, at some point or points to be designated hereafter. It is desired, for reasons stated in telegram of this date, that, as far as practicable, the National Guard be given preference.

"The rendezvous for your state will be If for any cause it is found necessary to change the point of concentration your